

ECO BICESTER STRATEGIC DELIVERY NOTES - NOTES – 26 MARCH 2015

MEETING: Eco Bicester Strategic Delivery Board DATE AND TIME: 26 March 2015 at 9:30am – 11:00am VENUE: Bicester Town Council's offices, OX26 6PS	Board Members: Cllr Barry Wood (CDC) (Chairman) Cllr Ian Hudspeth (OCC) Cllr Lawrie Stratford (OCC) Cllr Michael Waine (OCC) Cllr Richard Mould (BTC) Cllr Rose Stratford (BTC) Cllr Lynn Pratt (BTC) Cllr Norman Bolster (CDC) Cllr Michael Gibbard (CDC)	Karen Curtin, (CDC) Sally Coble (Environment Agency) Ben Jackson (Bicester Chamber of Commerce) Adrian Shooter (Bicester Vision) NHS Clinical Commissioning Group rep David Warburton (HCA)
Completed by: Sue Cavalier		

	TOPIC	PURPOSE	RESP.	BY
1.	Apologies	Sally Coble, Environment Agency – Lesley Tims attended as rep Cllr Gibbard, Cherwell District Council Cllr Richard Mould, Bicester Town Council Ben Jackson, Bicester Chamber of Commerce Adrian Shooter - Placi O'Neill-Espejo attended as rep – Bicester Vision David Warburton and Stephanie Ainsworth, Homes & Communities Agency		
2.	Notes of previous meeting and matters arising	The Board agreed the notes of 22 January 2015 with updates and matters arising included in the following agenda items.		
3.	Introduction to the White Horse Federation	Charlotte Christie, Academies and Collaborations Co-ordinator at Oxfordshire County Council introduced the White Horse Federation (WHF) http://thewhitehorsefederation.org.uk/ to the Board. Dr Nicholas Capstick, CEO; Simon Cowley, Primary Director; and Candida Hutchinson, Principal. The WHF is a Multi-Academy Trust which has been appointed to run the first NW Bicester Primary School. Dr Nicholas Capstick gave a presentation to the Board on WHF's core vision and values; the 7 strand model of WHF excellence; and the Little Green Book . "A set of promises that as colleagues, we make to each other and to our organisation, for the ultimate benefit of the children and families that our		

ECO BICESTER STRATEGIC DELIVERY NOTES - NOTES – 26 MARCH 2015

		<p>schools serve.”</p> <p>The Chairman thanks the WHF for their impressive presentation which was very encouraging.</p> <p>Feedback/questions from the Board:</p> <p><i>Cllr Michael Waine: how do you see your relationship with Bicester Academy Schools and do you have a link with the Oxford School Alliance?</i></p> <p>Dr Nicholas Capstick: it would be presumptuous to make those connections until we had been appointed. The WHF vision is to work with any school. WHF have four hubs and have the benefit of working with colleagues in the Bicester area.</p> <p><i>Placi O’Neill-Espejo: suggest linking this project with the studio school It will be mutually beneficial to learning from the demonstration and technology</i></p> <p>Action: Placi O’Neill-Espejo to make the introduction between WHF and the studio school.</p> <p><i>Cllr Michael Waine: other schools need to be onboard with this.</i></p> <p>Dr Nicholas Capstick: the WHF has an ambassador role elsewhere and will take exemplary ‘nuggets’ to other schools.</p> <p><i>Chairman: will the Bicester Primary School be a semi-autonomous hub?</i></p> <p>Dr Nicholas Capstick: yes, however the final decision is with the council and education authority. The school will work best when there is a presence in the area but not to ‘flood’ the area with WHF schools. It then gives parents a choice.</p>	PO-J	
4.	Eco Bicester One Shared Vision Steering Group report	<p>Karen Curtin, Commercial Director (Bicester) updated the Board on the following key projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North West Bicester – progress being made on the S106 and identifying any additional capacity required. • Business centre – the project is behind schedule and an options paper will be taken to Cherwell District Council’s Executive and then brought to the July Board meeting. 		

ECO BICESTER STRATEGIC DELIVERY NOTES - NOTES – 26 MARCH 2015

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bicester sustainability projects – full update by the Project Officer (Sustainability) at item 7. • Bicester Garden Town funding – following the budget announcement in March, CDC have received confirmation of the funding. Update by the Garden Town Delivery Manager at item 8. • Cherwell Local Plan – following closure of the examination, the Inspector's report is expected in May 2015. • Bicester Masterplan – ongoing key piece of work for the development of Bicester. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funding bids submitted by the Bicester Delivery Team to the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (OxLEP) and the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) • Key project for 2015/16 - research into the utility constraints. Liaising with the Local Enterprise Partnerships for any help they can give. • Pioneer Square unit – town centre opportunity of an information centre for engagement and consultation. More information to follow at the July Board meeting. • External communication – looking at how to manage and communicate information on projects and benefits to the town. <p>Comments from the Board:</p> <p>Board members agreed clear communication required to set out the links and gains to be achieved from the ongoing Bicester projects, along with the employment opportunities and the benefits to the Bicester residents and wider county.</p> <p>The Chairman clarified that the Board is the steering group for all projects across the whole of Bicester and it is the Board's responsibility to ensure clear messages are communicated.</p> <p>Councillor Ian Hudspeth advised that it would be beneficial to invite the Local Enterprise Partnerships to a Board meeting to ensure they are fully aware of</p>		
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ECO BICESTER STRATEGIC DELIVERY NOTES - NOTES – 26 MARCH 2015

		<p>Bicester's projects.</p> <p>Action: Forward Plan item – invite the Local Enterprise Partnerships to a Board meeting.</p>	SC	
5.	NW Bicester Steering Group report	<p>Caroline Clapson, Community Governance and Social Infrastructure Adviser, presented Jenny Barker's report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exemplar Development – site construction is progressing well and A2Dominion have advised that the show homes and sales centre are due to open late spring, with the first occupations due late summer 2015. Also pre-application discussions are now underway for the local centre proposals with an application expected to be submitted in April. • NW Bicester Supplementary Planning Document - the formal consultation period on the draft SPD has now closed and all consultation responses are currently being considered, prior to being reported to CDC's Executive. Formal adoption of the SPD can only follow once the LP has been adopted. • NW Bicester Planning Applications – the key thing to note is that the first of the outline applications for 2600 homes and other related uses submitted by A2D went to CDC's Planning Committee on 19 March where it was resolved to grant planning permission subject to conditions and also the satisfactory completion of legal agreements. Work on these agreements is currently underway. • Work will also progress on dealing with the rest of the applications and various meetings have been arranged to progress these. <p>The Board noted the progress made.</p> <p>Update from Gerry Walker, Regional Development Director North, A2Dominion - from everybody's perspective it is a fantastic milestone to get to resolution to grant. Currently going through due diligence with the Homes & Communities Agency and it is likely that they will fund to unlock the infrastructure items. Ongoing work with CDC and OCC in finalising negotiations with Network Rail and anticipate moving forwards with them over the next few months.</p>		

ECO BICESTER STRATEGIC DELIVERY NOTES - NOTES – 26 MARCH 2015

		<p>The Chairman requested that both himself and the Leader of OCC be kept updated by their relevant officers.</p> <p>Councillor Stratford highlighted that the East West rail proposed crossing on London Road is of primary concern to Bicester residents. The Chairman advised that officers were looking at all options for a solution.</p>		
6.	NW Bicester Apprenticeship Scheme Update	<p>Caroline Clapson presented the report with progress update as follows:</p> <p>The Eco Bicester Project Team have been working with partners over the past year or so to set up a scheme which would allow a sustained programme of apprenticeships to be delivered throughout the construction of NW Bicester. Last December the Eco Bicester Project Team submitted a bid to the OxLEP City Deal to secure funding to take the initiative from concept to reality. Funding of £50,000 (subject to contract) was awarded by OxLEP to progress this scheme further over the next 2 years.</p> <p>Once the funding is received from OxLEP, background work will commence towards setting up of the Apprenticeship Training Agency (ATA) with a view to achieve this by Summer 2015, so it can be included in legal agreements with developers. The earliest time to see apprenticeships being delivered through this scheme will be towards the end of 2016/2017.</p> <p>Updates will be brought to the Board as the initiative progresses.</p> <p>The Board noted the report and the long term employment opportunities and apprenticeships for Bicester.</p>		
7.	Eco Bicester Project update	<p>Gabi Kaiser, Project Officer (Sustainability) presented the report with updates on new projects or projects with significant progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Playground/Café – Bicester Town Council leading the project with the Bicester Delivery Team assisting with a funding bid submission to WRAP. 		

ECO BICESTER STRATEGIC DELIVERY NOTES - NOTES – 26 MARCH 2015

		<p>Outcome known in April. Two organisations have submitted expressions of interest to run the café and the Bicester Delivery Team are assisting with the tender process and evaluation. Outcome known in May.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boiler scheme – a full update to be brought to the next Board meeting once all applications have been processed. • Heat Network – initial report received, final report due in the summer. A members' briefing will be arranged. • Community solar scheme and grid constraints – worked with the Low Carbon Hub and OCC on the report focusing on the BRITA issue and what this outlines for future development in Bicester. A full update to be brought to the next Board meeting. • 'Bicester Live' bid – Innovate UK funding bid for an integrated data platform to allow users to model the behaviour of the town with a special focus on waste / recycling, local economy, community, transport and energy / water. Decision expected beginning April. • OxLEP expression of interest bids submitted – for sustainable transport; and the eco business centre. Decision expected May. • Bicester wayfinding project – first meeting of the stakeholders took place in February. Project brief to be drafted by end March. • Awards bid for – (i) Municipal Journal; and (ii) Green Apple, for promotion of Eco Bicester as an energy smart town. Decision expected April. <p>The Chairman thanked Gabi Kaiser for the useful update and asked for it to be added to the Eco Bicester website.</p> <p>Action: Sue Cavalier to add the sustainability project report to the Eco Bicester website.</p> <p>Councillor Lawrie Stratford brought attention to the finished projects listed at the end of the report table highlighting that these would not have been achieved without the Eco Bicester project.</p> <p>Karen Curtin added that a working group had been set up for a new Bicester website</p>	SC	
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ECO BICESTER STRATEGIC DELIVERY NOTES - NOTES – 26 MARCH 2015

		<p>and also looking into creating an app.</p> <p>The Board noted the content of the report.</p>		
8.	<p>Update on Garden Town funding attracted to Bicester</p>	<p>Maria Curran, Garden Town Delivery Manager, presented the report which provides an update on Central Government funding available for delivering the Bicester Garden Town concept.</p> <p>The following two bids were submitted to DCLG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity bid for approximately £1.7m available over this and the next calendar year • Capital bid for approximately £130m to be available over the next 10 years to deliver key infrastructure that helps accelerate the delivery of housing and employment proposals. <p>The Capital funding submission was compiled and evidenced in collaboration with partners and identifies infrastructure needs across two delivery phases.</p> <p>The outcome of the funding submissions was announced as part of the Budget Statement on 18 March. The capacity bid was successfully awarded, however the capital funding bid was considered premature in view of the need for further work on partnership and delivery arrangements. However, the Government has confirmed it will work with Cherwell District Council on helping to meet Bicester's infrastructure needs.</p> <p>Further updates will be brought to future Board meetings as the work progresses.</p> <p>Members discussed the variety of infrastructure requirements. The Chairman summarised that the capacity studies will require partnership working and resourcing and emphasised the need to meet key milestones/triggers.</p> <p>The Board noted the report and progress made.</p>		

ECO BICESTER STRATEGIC DELIVERY NOTES - NOTES – 26 MARCH 2015

9.	Sustainable Transport Strategy – Delivery of walking and cycling improvements in Bicester	Item deferred to the next Board meeting on 23 July 2015 to allow for further consultation on the processes.		
10.	Draft Local Transport Plan	Lisa Michelson, Locality Manager - Infrastructure Development at Oxfordshire County Council and Jacqui Cox, Principal Transport Planner gave a brief transport update and presentation.		
11.	Risk Log	Caroline Clapson presented the risk log: There were no changes to risk levels this month and all updates are in bold type.		
12.	Financial Monitoring Statement	The Board agreed the Financial Monitoring Statement with no comments made.		
13.	Action Plan 2015/16	The Action Plan was noted with the change of showcase for July from 'Transport' to 'Graven Hill'.		
14.	Press release summary and agreed Communication Messages	The press releases were noted and the 3 key subjects for communication messages agreed as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The White Horse Federation appointed to run the first NW Bicester Primary School. • Apprenticeships funding awarded and progress • Garden Town funding awarded and progress 		
15.	Showcase	The showcase on Graven Hill was deferred to the next Board meeting on 23 July 2015.		
16.	Date of next meetings	2015 dates: 23 July at 2pm at John Paul II Centre, Bicester 8 Oct at 2pm at John Paul II Centre, Bicester	All to note	